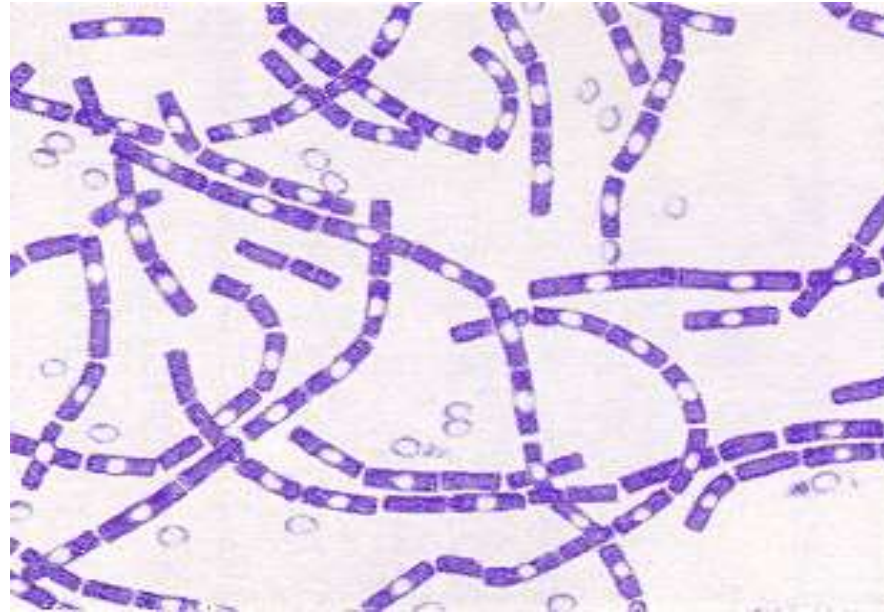


# ***Bacillus anthracis***



**Salman/PhD in Medical  
Microbiology**

# General Characteristics

- Morphology
  - Large, sporeforming gram-positive bacilli
  - Spores viable for up to 50 years
  - Nonhemolytic on sheep blood agar
- Two forms Vegetative, spore
- Over 1,200 strains
- Nearly worldwide distribution



# The Spore

- Sporulation requires:
  - Poor nutrient conditions
  - Presence of oxygen
- Spores
  - Very resistant
  - Survive for decades
  - Taken up by host and germinate
- Lethal dose 2,500 to 55,000 spores

